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Query and Answer

All Queries and Answers should be addressed to Thomas E. Oliver, Urbana, Illinois. Each query will be run for two issues; if no answer is given, it will then be withdrawn, but may, upon request, be reinserted later.

QUERIES

7. *What information is to be had on: a) French actors or companies of actors playing in America in the French language? b) The influence of French drama on American drama?*

8. *Will some one list the best class-texts of French, German and Spanish history, the so-called "Historical Readers"?*

We will give in the next issue what material has been found, meanwhile urging our correspondents to send us more data.

9. *What "Informational" books suited to class reading and dealing with the customs and manners of France, Germany, and Spanish countries are published by American firms?*

Much material of this kind has already been found. It will be listed in the near future.

10. *Will the JOURNAL give a brief bibliography of Portugal and of the Portuguese language? The growing importance of Brazil internationally would seem to warrant more attention in this direction.*

11. *Will some one suggest a working library for use in connection with the proposed exchange of letters between French and American secondary school pupils under the George Peabody Foundation for International Educational Correspondence? Also a like apparatus for similar correspondence between American and Spanish-speaking pupils?*

ANSWERS

2. *Can one give a list of the best scientific readers available in this country in French, German and Spanish?*

See the *Journal*, Vol. III, pp. 335-337 for previous answers to this question.

A Spanish reader has since been called to our attention, *A Reader of Scientific and Technical Spanish* by Cornélis DeWitt Willcox, Professor in the U. S. Military Academy. 588 pp. New York (Sturgis & Walton) 1913.

This reader has been called excellent by our correspondents. "It contains a technical vocabulary and deals with physics, chemistry, mining, bridges, railroads, surveying, topography, geography, the automobile, aeronautics, submarines and the Spanish-American War."

—The same correspondent calls our notice to "one of the very best German chemical readers: *Chemical German*, by Dr. Francis C. Phillips, XI-241. Easton, Penn. (The Chemical Publishing Co.) 1913. \$2. It contains the necessary technical vocabulary and is intended for advanced students.

Other French scientific readers are:

—*Popular Science*, edited and annotated by Jules Luquiens, 12°. 207 pages of text; notes, pp. 211-252; no vocabulary. Boston (Ginn & Co.) 1895.

—*An Elementary Scientific French Reader* by P. Mariotte-Davies. 60 pages of text; notes, pp. 63-77; dictionary, pp. 81-132. 12°. Boston (D. C. Heath) 1897.

—*Causeries Familiales sur les Grandes Découvertes Modernes* par E. Müller; edited with notes, vocabulary and appendices by F. E. B. Wale. (Text 39 pages; notes, pp. 40-78) Boston (D. C. Heath) 1893.

—*A Spanish nautical phrase book and reader* has been issued in a second edition by the Department of Modern Languages of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, 1919. 12°; 149 pages+folded inserts. \$1.50. This book might well be used as a supplement to the Willcox reader mentioned above.

3. *What material published by American firms is available for the instruction of very young pupils in German, in Spanish, in French?*

See pp. 282-285 of Vol. III of the *Journal* for partial answer.

Other material is as follows:

—*Features of French Life* by Frank R. Robert (Whitechapel Foundation School). Prefaces by Walter Rippmann. Sim-

ple illustrations by the author and by J. A. Symington. Two parts: First Part VIII-84 (Fourth edition, July 1913); Second Part X-94 (Preface Nov. 1, 1904). 16°. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. Graded questions and answers in the running text.

- Cartes de Lectures Françaises pour les enfants américains* by Agnes Godfrey Gay. Privately printed; no longer (1919) available. Wall charts with pictures and simple sentences. Used at the University Elementary School, Chicago. It is to be hoped that a new edition may be forthcoming.
- Mon livre de Petites Histoires* by Agnes Godfrey Gay. \$1. Published originally by the Wm. R. Jenkins Co. of New York but now out of print. Used in the University Elementary School, Chicago. Brentano's has taken over the Jenkins books. It is to be hoped that a new edition may be printed.
- Contes et Légendes*. Première Partie by H. A. Guerber. 60 cents. American Book Co.
- French Plays for Children* by Josette Eugénie Spink. 35 cents. D. C. Heath. 1916. Seven plays based on French legends and folk lore. Vocabulary.
- Petit Théâtre des Enfants* by Florence Eveleen Elenore (Olliffe) Bell(=Lady Hugh Bell). 75 cents. Longmans, Green and Co. 1918.
- Hotchkiss, Louise Chapman, *Le Premier Livre de Français*. D. C. Heath (copyright 1895) 12°; 16+63 pages.
- For somewhat older pupils Ginn and Co. have just published (May 1919) *Le Français pour Tous par la Méthode Directe* by Noëlia Dubrule. Illustrations by W. H. Pierce. 12°; XXII-259. 96 cents. This book is very attractive.

The following were published quite a while ago but still have value:

- Mrs. Barbauld's *Lessons for Children*. With a new French translation on opposite pages. Arranged according to Marcel's System of studying languages by I. de Veitelle. 65 cents. D. C. Appleton.
- Madame De Peyrac's *French Children at Home*. An introduction to *Comment on parle à Paris* by the same author. 12°. 80 cents. D. C. Appleton.

- Les Premiers Pas dans l'Etude du Français par la Méthode Naturelle* par C. Moutonnier. Freely illustrated. 12°. 197 pages. New York (Henry Holt; F. W. Christern); Boston (Schoenhof) [1882].
- Pylodet's *Gouttes de Rosée. Petit Trésor poétique des jeunes personnes*. 18°. 188 pages. Henry Holt.
- Pylodet's *La Mère l'Oie. Poésies, Enigmes, Chansons et Rondes enfantines*. 8°, 80 pages. Illustrated. Henry Holt.

Not so available because published in England are the following which have been found excellent:

- Little French Folk*. A First Book in French for little children written in everyday speech of little French children by Charles Talbot Onions, M.A. With simple illustrations by John Williamson. Second edition, preface dated 1905. London (Horace Marshall & Son, Temple House and 125 Fleet St., E. C.).

The same firm of Horace Marshall & Son has a series of juvenile French books by Violet Partington, French mistress at the Queen's College School. These are as follows:

- Des Vacances à Paris*. Second year reading book describing the adventures of a little English girl on a visit to some French relations in Paris. Illustrated. 1s. 6^d.
- “*Les Deux Fées*” and other French plays for little Children. Five short plays. 9d.
- Dans le Royaume des Fées*. A second series of French plays. 9d.
- Récitations et Poésies*. With phonetic transcript opposite the print, and 60 charming pictures by A. M. Appleton. 2s.

Henry Frowde and Hodder and Stoughton of London publish *My very first French Book*. Colored illustrations. 28 lessons; 32 pages. 12°.

The Clarendon Press (Oxford, England) issue an attractive book for beginners of 10 to 12 years of age: *Mon Premier Livre de Français* by F. M. S. Batchelor. Illustrated by E. A. Pike. 8°. Pp. 182. 60 cents. (With phonetic transcription of Chapters I–XV. 90 cents. Phonetic transcription separately, illustrated, 40 cents.) 800 word vocabulary. 1915.

In German the following juvenile books are known to be good:

- Des Kindes Erstes Lesebuch* by Karen Monrad Jones. D. C. Heath. Illustrated. VI-85 pages. 40 cents. This is in grade just above a primer. A correspondent writes enthusiastically about this book and its stimulating effect upon pupils of about 10 or 12 years.
- The American Book Co. issue the *Fick Series* by H. H. Fick, a teacher of long experience. These books are as follows:
1. *Ich und Du. Ein Buch für die Kleinsten.* Pp. 80.
 2. *Dies und Das. Ein Buch für die Kleinen.* Pp. 64.
 3. *Hin und Her. Ein Buch für die Kinder.* Pp. 90.
 4. *Neu und Alt. Ein Buch für die Jugend.* Pp. 125.
 5. *Hier und Dort. Ein Buch für die reifere Jugend.* Pp. 272.
- These books have numerous and attractive illustrations many of them in colors.
- A juvenile book from an English firm, Horace Marshall & Son of London, is *Deutsche Sagen*, edited by Marguerite Ninet. Illustrated. 1s. 6d. Four stories based on mediaeval legends. For children in their third year of German.

In Spanish the following juvenile books have come to our attention:

- Primer Libro de Lectura* by Walsh. D. C. Heath. 1919. 52 cents.
- Lectura Infantil. Libro segundo de Lectura.* Pp. 173 D. C. Heath. 1918. 48 cents.
- Primeras Lecciones de Español* por Carolina Marcial Dorado. 12°. XVI-307, Ginn & Co. Copyright 1918.
- We have already called attention to the Worman series of juvenile books. The latest is the *New First Spanish Book* by J. H. Worman. 12°. VI-127. American Book Co.
- A beautifully illustrated book in rich colors is published by the Buenos Aires firm of Angel Estrada y Cia [1914]. It is called "*La Base; libro primario infantil* por José A. Natale. Adaptado al programa vigente." This book might well be taken as a model of what a child's book should be.

6. Does anyone know if perception cards similar to Youngs' Latin Perception Cards (published by the American Book Company) are available for the modern foreign languages, and, if so, where they may be obtained?

See an interesting article by Amelia F. Gianella, "The Use of Flash Cards for Drill in French," M. L. J., I, pp. 96-99. The value of such cards is clearly demonstrated.

See M. L. J. III, p. 281, for further discussion of the value and need of such cards.

There came recently to our attention a card-device entitled *Verb-Training. Practice Cards for Verb-Study in Foreign Languages*, designed by Leo R. Lewis of Tufts College. For sale by The Tufts College Bookstore, Medford, Massachusetts. These cards are 72 in number, $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in size. Serial numbers in the corners run from 1 to 72; 73 to 144; 145 to 216; 217 to 288, there being two numbers to each side of every card. Following each number is a tense form in English calling for the equivalent in the foreign idiom. The tense forms increase in difficulty with the serial numbers. The basic idea in the use of these cards is instantaneous response as the sole proof of practical knowledge. A resourceful teacher could utilize these cards in many practical ways to relieve the monotony of verb-drill.